

Governor's Proposed FY23 Budget Adjustments
Appropriations Committee Public Hearing
HB 5037 AAC the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30th, 2023
Friday,
DMHAS Budget
February 25th, 2022

Good evening Senator Osten, Representative Nolan, Senator Formica, and distinguished members of the Appropriations Committee:

I am a Reliance Health member of Teamworks and CSP. I am also a voter in New London. I would like to express my passion for safe places like TEAMWORKS at Reliance Health Inc.

I wouldn't have a safe place to go to as everyone had turned their backs on me. I had lost it all. My children, my health and my mental well-being. I had nothing left to give. What do you do when you have nothing more to give and everyone has turned on you... You come to places like Reliance Health TEAMWORKS.

I fought long and hard to adhere to DCF requests and do all that was required of me to do. I had all my supports in place and advocated to regain custody of my children. To no avail the government had failed me too.

Without true support and education on advocacy from TEAMWORKS and CSP I would not be here. I honestly would be in jail due to not being able to control my feelings and/or in dead due to overdose. I had attempted suicide many times due to the lost of my children to the system. I felt I had lost my world and I had failed them. That's why I know the importance of advocacy for Mental health patients with children.

Flat funding places like Reliance Health Inc. will disservice the quality of work provided, staff retention and passion to keep US going. We need places like Reliance Health Teamworks to restore, rebuild and teach us new ways of living.

Today I am Drug free and living for the fight of my children for the system has failed me, but I refuse to fail them. My voice will be heard. Please help increase funding for Non-Profit Sectors like Reliance Health Inc.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Teamworks Anonymous Member #6

Age 35